

HARMONY FIRE DISTRICT

ANNUAL MEETING 6/1/2013

Present: Chief Stuart Pearson; Moderator - Raymond Fogarty, Jr. (tardy - excused);
Board Members - Milton Huston, George Kain & James Richards
Treasurer - Sandra Owens; Tax Collector/Clerk - Kimberly Barber;
Attorney - Fred Mason, Jr.

Absent: Board Member - Louise Michaels - excused

I. – Pledge of Allegiance

II. – Moment of Silence for Departed Members

○ Jerome Plante ○ Russell Steere ○ Milton Aldrich

III. – Meeting Called to Order at 10:03 am by the acting Moderator, Milton Huston.
He took the place of Moderator Fogarty while he was detained.

IV. – Reading of Warrant by Clerk Kimberly Barber.

V. – Election Results Announced

Moderator Fogarty read the results of the voting for this annual meeting.

The results were as follows:

<i>Office</i>	<i>Term</i>	<i>Candidate</i>	<i>Votes Received</i>
Moderator	(1) year	Raymond Fogarty	15
Treasurer	(1) year	Sandra Owens	15
Exec. Committee	(4) years	Milton Huston	15

VI. – Swearing In of Officers by Attorney Fred Mason.

VII. – Approval of the Minutes from June 2, 2012 Annual Meeting.

Moderator Fogarty asked the board if there were any discrepancies to note on the minutes. If not, he would like to call for a motion to accept them.

Milton made a motion to accept the minutes. Jim seconded the motion.
The motion carried unanimously.

VIII. – Moderator Opening Remarks

Moderator Fogarty stated the Overseers of the Voting Polls this year were Alyce Mack and Doreen Pierce. He thanked the overseers for assisting to make our election possible.

IX. – Chief's Report

Chief Pearson presented his 2012-13 Annual written report of the activities of the district to the audience. The theme of this year's report is "Harmony Strong." As stated in my report, I feel there are four words that define this statement and exemplify our department and crew; courage, loyalty, integrity and pride. This year's cover honors our fire department crews, both Fire and EMS. Not all crew members are shown in the photos, since this is a volunteer department not all were available on picture day. However it is a good representation of our dedicated crew.

The report content is a collection of data explaining the activities, training and improvements made for the period of May 1, 2012 thru April 30, 2013. During that period there were 574 calls and many hours of training. He stated, "as Harmony's population grow and ages, so do our service numbers". Additionally he pointed out that the report contains individual statements from each of our department officers. There is also a section included for the Harmony Fire Department and Improvement Association. It lists their officers and activities.

The Chief thanked Kim for her hard work and assistance over the past year. He also thanked the officers and crew for their dedication throughout the year. He additionally thanked the District Board for everything they do for the Harmony Fire District. The Chief asked the audience for any questions. There were none.

George made a motion to accept the Chief's Report. Jim seconded it. The motion carried unanimously.

X. – Treasurer's Report

Sandy presented her Treasurer's report for the period May 1, 2012 through April 30, 2013. The balance for the period ending April 30, 2012 was \$322,747.81. Our balance as of April 30, 2013 is \$465,443.27. Of this \$141,390.56 is earmarked for the new truck purchase.

She stated that third party billing revenue is up this year, which possibly allows further funds to be transferred to the truck fund. She said that would be addressed later in the meeting when we discussed the budget.

Milton made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report. George seconded it.

The motion carried unanimously.

XI. – Tax Collector's Report

Kim presented her Tax Collector's report. She stated that the taxes receivable balance as of today's meeting date is \$61,214.21. This figure is lower in comparison to last year and the year before at this time. Last year at this time we were just over \$94,000 and the year before just over \$92,000.

Our levy for the 2012 tax bills was \$444,076.59 with 89% collected to date. In 2011 it was \$441,703.69 with 85% collected as of year-end. In 2010 it was \$446,182.96 with 90% collected as of year-end.

Jim made a motion to accept the Tax Collector's Report. George seconded it.

The motion carried unanimously.

XII. – Budget for Fiscal Year 2013/2014

Notes from Transcriber:

This year a power point presentation was prepared by Kim to run on the Promethean board in coordination with the Budget discussion. Items were presented by section, with any changes noted for the record. Unless noted, there were no questions were presented by the public.

Administration: Proposed \$79,424

Additional \$3,000 for Image Trend software. The Chief explained that this software update will be used for station reports and electronic record keeping.

Personnel: Proposed \$300,859.38

The Moderator noted that the Chief's Salary (G/L #60210) was increased 2% according to his contract and Administrative Salary (G/L #60200) was increased by 3%.

Additionally, \$100 was added to Payroll Expense (G/L #60255) which is used for the QuickBooks annual payroll fee and payroll Direct Deposit fees.

Fire Protection/Equipment/Operations.: Proposed \$64,650

An additional \$100 was added to Consumable Services (G/L #60305) since the budget for this item has previously been very tight.

Emergency Maintenance: Proposed \$32,100

Building & Grounds: Proposed \$37,000

An additional \$500 was added to Maintenance (G/L #60500) since the budget for this item has previously been very tight.

Other: Proposed \$33,000

Life Insurance (G/L #60610) has been increased \$6,400 due to the fact that it was previously under budgeted for and to reflect an increase of 3% for the upcoming year.

Capital Improvement Fund for fiscal Year 2013/2014 –

The Moderator noted that there will be a carryover of unfinished Capital Improvement items from the fiscal year 2012/2013. \$2,000 for *Risk Insurance Analysis* (G/L #61121) and \$11,508.55 for *Structural Repairs* (G/L #61122).

The Moderator continued to explain that this year we are asking to appropriate an additional \$30,000 for the Truck Fund on top of the usual \$30,000 we always budget for. This will enable us to have enough funds on hand to pay for the new apparatus in full and assume no new liability for the district.

The Chief stated that the appropriation of \$10,000 for the Vision System was for a program to back-up the aging municipal system that handles notifications from fire alarm systems within the Town of Gloucester. Mr. Rick Nadeau questioned whether this should be a town expense instead of a fire district expense. The Chief said that since the system was only for fire activities, the expense would be split between the three Gloucester fire districts. It is for alarms in schools, churches, restaurants, etc.

George made a motion to accept the total budget amount proposed at \$587,033.38 for fiscal year 2013/2014. Jim seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

XIII. – Tax Rate for fiscal year 2013/2014

The Moderator stated that the proposed tax rate for fiscal year 2013/14 is One Dollar and Forty-Eight Cents (\$1.48) per thousand dollars of evaluation.

Sandy stated that there would be no increase this year. We were within our budget last year, so she felt no need. The Moderator noted for the record that the Town of Gloucester went down 1¢ on their tax rate for the next fiscal year.

Milton made a motion that the tax rate for fiscal year 2013/2014 be kept the same at One Dollar and Forty-Eight Cents (\$1.48) per thousand dollars of evaluation. George seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

XIV. – Resolutions/ Recognition

The Chief wanted to recognize crew members whom had received awards for their years of service at the recent Gloucester Fire Departments Banquet.

35 Years	Deputy Chief Michael Segee and Private Robert Pierce
15 Years	Lieutenant Kevin Farley
10 Years	Privates Linda Ferragamo & George Nichols
5 Years	Private Tom Malott

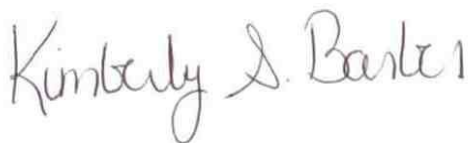
XV. – Public Input None

XVI. – Adjournment

Jim made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Milton seconded it. The motion carried unanimously.

The annual meeting of the Harmony Fire District was adjourned at 10:46 am.

Respectfully Submitted,



Kimberly S. Barber
Clerk